POLITICAL VIOLENCE, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Africa and Asia in Comparative Perspective

Dr. S.N. Yadav

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PREFACE

Political violence has been one of the key hallmarks of the twentieth century. It is, therefore, not surprising that the twentieth century has been defined as the longest century of violence. Keeping this reality in mind, the author has made serious endeavour to critically examine the issue of political violence in the developing countries, especially Africa and Asia.

Part A of the book deals with the various theories and models explaining the nature and characteristic of political violence in different parts of the world. Part B deals with the prevailing political violence in contemporary Africa. Chapter three has critically examined the social and political dimension of violence in Angola. The nature of electoral violence and its impact on democracy in Nigeria has been covered in the fourth chapter. There has been phenomenal increase in political violence in the post-Apartheid South Africa. This aspect of the problem has been investigated in chapter fifth.

Political violence has serious implications for democracy and human rights in East Africa. In fact, in the case of Uganda political violence has emerged as an effective instrument of political power. These issues have been covered in chapters sixth and seventh respectively.

Another continent which has been the worst victim of political violence after Africa is, undoubtedly, the Asian continent. The author has examined the case of political violence in India and Indonesia in a very comprehensive and critical manner in Part C in chapters eighth and ninth respectively.

The book provides a very clear understanding of the prevailing political violence in Africa and Asia with particular emphasis on Angola, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, India and Indonesia. The author is convinced that this book will be a significant contribution to the literature on political violence in Africa and Asia and, hence, extremely useful for academicians, researchers as well as policy-makers.

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